

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

GEORGE A. JACKSON, et al.,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	C. A. No. 05-823-***
)	
STANLEY TAYLOR, et al.,)	JURY TRIAL REQUESTED
)	
Defendants.)	

**DEFENDANT MICHAEL KNIGHT'S RESPONSE
TO PLAINTIFFS' INTERROGATORIES**

Defendant Michael Knight ("Answering Defendant") hereby responds to Plaintiffs' Interrogatories:

GENERAL OBJECTIONS

1. Answering Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent that they seek information or documents protected from disclosure by the attorney-client privilege, the work product doctrine, or any other applicable privilege.
2. Answering Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent that they purport to require supplementation of these responses beyond that required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(e).
3. Answering Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent that they purport to place duties upon them not set forth in, or contemplated by, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
4. Answering Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent that they purport to seek information or documents not in their possession, custody or control.

5. Answering Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent that they seek the production of documents equally available to the Plaintiffs or Plaintiffs' counsel. Such documents will be identified by Answering Defendants but will not be produced.

6. Answering Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent that they purport to require production of information or documents which are impractical or unduly burdensome to reproduce.

7. Answering Defendant objects to the Interrogatories to the extent that they seek the production of documents generated by or received from his counsel in connection with this litigation on or after the date of the acceptance of representation on the grounds that such documents are protected by attorney-client and work product privileges.

RESPONSES

Subject to, and without waiver of the foregoing General Objections and those set forth in Answering Defendant's Responses, Answering Defendant responds, after a reasonable search, and subject to supplementation, as follows:

1. State in your own words the manner in which the incident which forms the subject matter of the Amended Complaint occurred. Include a description of the events which led to the excessive heat/cold in the SCI Main Kitchen Unit.

RESPONSE: Objection. Defendants dispute Plaintiffs' allegations and in particular deny that there is or was inadequate ventilation and airflow at SCI. Therefore, Answering Defendant cannot respond to this Interrogatory.

2. State whether you received any complaints from inmate kitchen workers in regards to excessive heat/cold at the SCI Main Kitchen Unit. If so, state specifically

and in detail what steps were taken by you in that matter.

RESPONSE: Plaintiff George Jackson filed a grievance on August 9, 2005 concerning inadequate ventilation in the SCI kitchen. I contacted Food Service Director Chris Senato to discuss the hood (ventilation) system and checked to make sure it was working properly. To ensure optimum performance a steam cleaning of the ventilation system was scheduled. Periodic preventive maintenance records were also discussed and reviewed to make sure everything was up to date.

3. Name all persons who investigated the facts or the inmate kitchen workers' complaint.

RESPONSE: With respect to Interrogatory No. 2, Food Service Director Chris Senato.

4. Name all persons, including SCI maintenance (DOC) personnel, DOC personnel and/or any private agency who inspected maintained or repaired the exhaust ventilation units at the SCI Main Kitchen Unit after the filing of the Original Complaint.

RESPONSE: The professional steam cleaning vendor "Going Clean" steam cleans the system. Going Clean was not retained in response to or in connection with this lawsuit.

5. Give the name and position of any agents, servants or employees of the Delaware Department of Corrections who made or caused to be made any statement, oral or written or otherwise recorded to individual concerning inmate kitchen workers are not to allow to wear DOC issued jacket and hat during extremely cold days in the kitchen.

RESPONSE: Answering Defendant does not understand this interrogatory.

6. State the maximum of inmate kitchen workers allowed on each shift prior to the filing of this Complaint.

RESPONSE: 25 inmates. That number has not changed since the filing of this action.

7. State specifically and in detail the furniture design in the inmate break room and the number of toilet facilities available for inmate kitchen workers. (number of toilet seats and urinals)

RESPONSE: Objection. This Request has no relevance to plaintiff's claims, requests information beyond the scope of Rule 26, and is not designed to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

8. Identify the area whereas inmate kitchen workers are order to consume food and beverages. State specifically in area size the measurements of that area.

RESPONSE: See Response to Interrogatory No. 7.

9. State specifically and in detail the number of vermin control equipment are installed in the SCI Main Kitchen Unit. If there is a diagram or layout of the kitchen area, produce such document.

RESPONSE: I do not know.

10. State specifically and in detail whether all vermin control equipment was properly working on or before July 20, 2005. If yes, produce such documents from inspection.

RESPONSE: Objection. This Interrogatory is vague, overly broad and unduly burdensome. Without waiving this objection during the time period July 2003 – July 2005, based on the Annual Public Health Sanitation reports, DOC inspections and periodic inspections by my office, I have no knowledge of any reports of vermin control equipment not working. The DOC uses statewide contract vendors administered by the Division of Support Services, Department of Administrative Services, now known as the Office of Management & Budget. The Pest Control Operator (PCO) is scheduled to

inspect & treat all statewide kitchen facilities every two weeks. If pests are observed in between visits a work order is completed and the vendor is called back to review as needed.

11. If answer to Number 10 is no, state what steps were taken including any purchase or repair of an vermin control equipment as to prevent the entrance or harborage of rodents, insects and other vermin.

RESPONSE: See Response to Interrogatory No. 10.

12. Produce all work orders submitted by defendants prior to the filing of this Complaint submitted in regards to excessive heat or cold at the work place.

RESPONSE: Objection. This Interrogatory is vague, overly broad and unduly burdensome. Further objection that Answering Defendant does not understand this Interrogatory. Without waiving this objection, I have no knowledge of the subject matter of this Interrogatory.

13. State specifically and in detail the model type, date of installation, inspection, maintenance and repair records or log pertaining to two (2) exhaust ventilation systems at the SCI Main Kitchen.

RESPONSE: Objection. This Interrogatory is vague, overly broad and unduly burdensome. Without waiving this objection, this is a maintenance issue of which I have no knowledge.

14. State whether you record and log regular daily temperatures a the SCI Main Kitchen Unit. If yes, produce such records.

RESPONSE: Food Services does not record air temperatures in the kitchen.

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Michael Knight

Date: March 12, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on March 12, 2007, I electronically filed *Defendant Michael Knight's Responses to Plaintiffs' Interrogatories* with the Clerk of Court using CM/ECF.

I hereby certify that on, March 12, 2007, I have mailed by United States Postal Service, the document to the following non-registered parties on the attached service list.

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